

Application Serial No.: 09/750,350
Amendment and Response to June 29, 2005 Final Office Action

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the device is a satellite.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the computer is accessed through an extranet site via the internet.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the display is an electronic dashboard.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the report of change is made by using a click box.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein an electronic notice of change is sent to a contractor-selected list of recipients whenever any change is reported.
7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein said third display for on-line review and approval by a manager of the contractor includes choices for a) approval or disapproval, b) requesting more information, or c) making no decision.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the choices are contained on a computerized menu.

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9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the pre-defined set of status changes are designated to be of different classes.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the classes are designated as "No Change", "Minor Change", and "Major Change".

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein each class is indicated on the display by a different color different from the color used to indicate any other change.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein green indicates the "No Change" class, yellow indicates the "Minor Change" class, and red indicates the "Major Change" class.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein all changes are recorded in database.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~44~~18 wherein the reminders are made daily.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~46~~18 wherein the status change is ~~closed~~resolved after a passage of a contractor-selected period of time.

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18. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 17,~~ A method whereby a contractor uses displays generated by a computer to manage activities of a plurality of subcontractors of goods and services for one or more complex device commissioned by a manufacturer, the method comprising the following steps:

executing a real-time computer program in the computer, the computer program providing a display having a location on said display for a status for each subcontractor, said status being drawn from a pre-defined set and identifying a change,

the computer program changing a visible attribute of the status location assigned to a particular subcontractor whenever that subcontractor accesses the computer and reports a change in status by selecting from said predefined set,

the computer program providing a second display showing all instances of the status for said subcontractor, and

the computer program providing a third display permitting, for each status change, on-line review and approval by a manager of the contractor of said change in status by said subcontractor,

wherein persons selected by the contractor are sent a reminder when there is a status change for which no action has been reported by the manager until the manger either takes an action or resolves the status change and wherein ~~closing~~ resolving the status change is indicated by a change of color of a status indicator on the display.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of providing system security to ensure that a particular subcontractor can load only that data and view that information which pertains to the devices being constructed or services being provided by that subcontractor.

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20. (Original) The method of claim 19 providing system
security by password protection.

21-37. (Canceled)